TRIBAL ART SOCIETY

Thursday
July 1st
2021

ONLINE CATALOGUE LXVII

JULY ISSUE

WHO WE ARE

The Tribal Art Society features an online catalogue every month listing quality works of Asian art that have been thoroughly vetted by our select members, who are the in-house experts.

By bringing together a group of trusted dealers specializing in Tribal art, our platform offers a unique collection of works of art that collectors will not find anywhere else online. To ensure the highest standards, gallery membership is by invitation only and determined by a selection committee.

/TribalArtSociety

Cover Image: detail of a Tatanua mask. Presented by Laurent Dodier on p. 22

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UP TO 2.000 130

4C FOUR CYCLE

EXHIBITIONS

ABSTRACT SPIRITUALITY

Our first exhibition is chaired by the Asian Art expert Gregg Baker and brings together artworks which embody *'abstract spirituality'* from different places and times. Over the centuries, artists from numerous cultures have strove to express transcendental ideas via physical forms through their relentless creative endeavours, connecting mankind with spirit. It is not surprising therefore that many have chosen an artistic idiom of abstraction to materialise the metaphysical concept of spirituality. A case in point is the Japanese post-war artist Suda Kokuta (1906-1990). Realising the essence of Eastern philosophy and Zen is not something of concrete form, he produced abstract paintings from the 1950s to the '70s in an attempt to express this intangible universe. The same can be said of many works produced by artists form Africa, Oceania and other parts of Asia. In presenting them side by side, we hope to convey how abstraction and spirituality are universal: the powerful, inspiring works shown here create a dialogue which transcends time and space.!

Notre première exposition est présidée par notre confrère d'Art Asiatique Gregg Baker et rassemble des œuvres qui incarnent la «spiritualité abstraite» de différents lieux et époques. Au fil des siècles, des artistes de nombreuses cultures se sont efforcés d'exprimer des idées transcendantales grâce à leur génie créatif en les exprimant au travers de la matière, reliant ainsi l'humanité à l'esprit. Il n'est donc pas surprenant que beaucoup aient choisi un idiome artistique d'abstraction pour matérialiser ce concept métaphysique de spiritualité. C'est le cas de l'artiste japonaise d'après-guerre Suda Kokuta (1906-1990). Réalisant que l'essence de la philosophie orientale et que le zen n'est pas quelque chose de concret, il a produit des peintures abstraites des années 1950 aux années 70 en tentant d'exprimer cet univers intangible. On peut en dire autant de nombreuses œuvres produites par des artistes d'Afrique, d'Océanie et d'autres régions d'Asie. En les présentant côte à côte, nous espérons transmettre à quel point l'abstraction et la spiritualité sont universelles : les œuvres puissantes et inspirantes présentées ici créent un dialogue qui transcende le temps et l'espace.

Participating galleries : Gregg Baker, Adrian Schlag, Julien Flak, Laurent Granier, David Serra, Adam Prout, Joaquin Pecci, Cédric le Dauphin, James Stephenson, Pablo Touchaleaume, Olivier Castellano, Guilhem Montagut, Eric Hertault, Olivier Larroque, Anthony Meyer, Thomas Murray, Jacaranda Gallery - Dori Rootenberg

Galeries participantes : Gregg Baker, Adrian Schlag, Julien Flak, Laurent Granier, David Serra, Adam Prout, Joaquin Pecci, Cédric le Dauphin, James Stephenson, Pablo Touchaleaume, Olivier Castellano, Guilhem Montagut, Eric Hertault, Olivier Larroque, Anthony Meyer, Thomas Murray, Jacaranda Gallery - Dori Rootenberg

ONLINE EXHIBITION:
https://www.tribalartsociety.com/abstract-spirituality-en

EXPOSITION EN LIGNE:
https://www.tribalartsociety.com/abstract-spirituality-fr

JULY ARTWORKS

Pieces are published and changed each month. The objects are presented with a full description and corresponding dealer's contact information. Unlike auction sites or other platforms, we empower collectors to interact directly with the member dealers for enquiries and purchases by clicking on the e-mail adress.

In order to guarantee the quality of pieces available in the catalogues, objects are systematically validated by all our select mebers, who are the in-house experts. Collectors are therefore encouraged to decide and buy with complete confidence. In addition to this, the Tribal Art Society proposes a seven-day full money back return policy should the buyer not feel totally satisfied with a purchase.

Feel free to ask the price if the artwork is listed with a price on request.

01

THULE DUCK

Carved duck sculpture
Late Punuk to early Thule Culture
Saint Lawrence Island (?), Bering Strait, Alaska, USA
1000 - 1500 AD
Mineralized walrus tusk (*Odobenus rosmarus divergens*)
Length: 5,2 cm
Price: 9.000 euros

A magnificently carved duck which was once part of a drag handle or toggle. The bird is superbly rendered with a natural grace and regal attitude. The eyes are deeply drilled and were originally inset with baleen. Ducks other than the stylized versions represented in the aviform gaming pieces are rarely represented by the early Eskimo.

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02

ASHANTI ROYAL STOOL

Royal stool
Ashanti
Ghana
Wood, silver
Height: 34 cm
Provenance:
Private collection
André Bladin Collection (1930 - 2015)
Price: 3.800 euros

OBJECT PRESENTED BY:
Olivier Larroque
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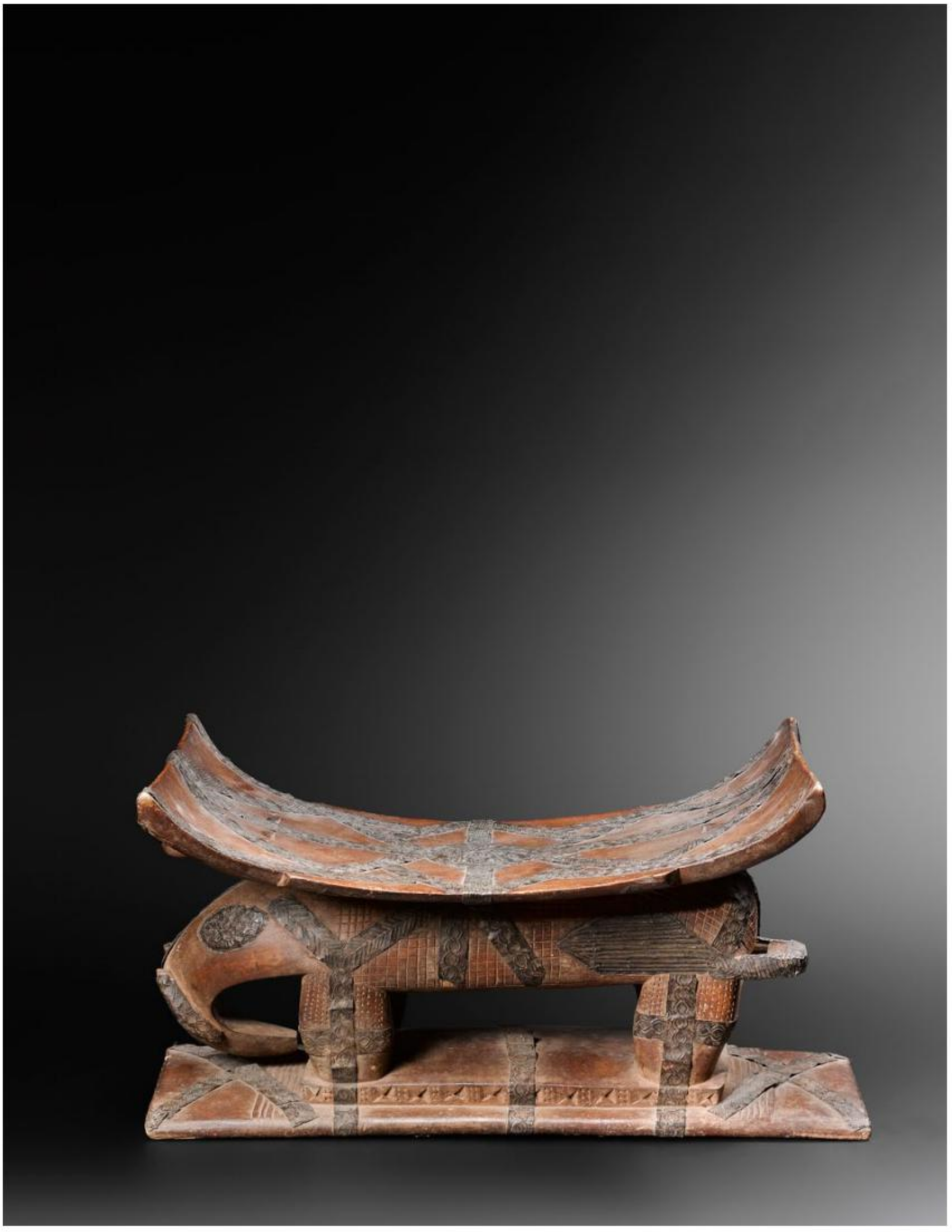

03

MALATIA WARRIOR CLUB

Warrior's Club
Malatia, Solomon Islands
19th century
Wood
Height: 69 cm / 27 in
Price: 6.000 euros

OBJECT PRESENTED BY:
Thomas Murray
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E.: thomas@tmurrayarts.com
W.: www.tmurrayarts.com

A fine and rare example of a nineteenth century war club from the Solomon Islands, probably Malatia Island. The club is made from dark wood with a fine surface and patina. The form of the club is of a flat bladed weapon with a tapering shaft narrowing towards the handle.

04

YORUBA *ERE IBEJI*

Ere Ibeji Female twin figure
Yoruba
Ilorin style, Oyo area,Nigeria
Early 20th century
Carved wood, pigments, metal
Height: 28,5 cm
Provenance:
Ex private collection, Europe
Ex Sotheby's Paris

TAS Exclusive Price:

SOLD

The statuettes linked to twin worship, are called ere ibeji in the Yoruba language: ere signifying a sacred image, ibi born and eji a double. Symbols of prestige, wealth and fecundity, ere ibeji figures also guaranteed the perpetuation of future generations. These effigies of ancestors were an integral part of everyday activities, punctuating the family life of the Yoruba. Subject to very codified rituals, ere ibeji figures were pampered, with their care including feeding, washing and oiling.

They were considered to be living beings, a reincarnation of ancestor-twins. Representations always showed them at the peak of their strength and power in adulthood.

This Ibeji figure is distinguished by the rigor of construction of the statue, the sensuality of its curves and the fineness of its details. The erosion of the facial features is quite affecting, linked as it is to the statue being ritually handled and stroked generation after generation.

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05

TATANUA MASK

Mask
Bismarck Archipelago, New Ireland, Papua New Guinea
End 19th century
Wood (alstonia scholaris), opercula (turbo petholatus), resin (parinarium laurinum), plant fibers and red, white and black pigments. (a restored lobe)
Height: 45 cm
Provenance:
Philippe Audouin, Paris
Loudmer sale of June 25, 1992, lot n ° 87
Catherine and Michel Andrault, Paris
Price: 28.000 euros

OBJECT PRESENTED BY:
Laurent Dodier
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The face has encrusted eyes with opercula and is framed by distended earlobes forming pendants. The open mouth shows the teeth. Above the frontal band, a hairstyle composed of an orange crest and colored patterns made with barter fabrics and dyed fibers.

According to Parkinson (1907), these masks which danced at Malagan funeral ceremonies represented the soul of a deceased person. They gathered all the attributes of masculine and virile beauty: a broad headdress, a prominent nose, pierced lobes and a large mouth lined with healthy teeth.

06

ABRON SCULPTURE

Sculpture
Abron
Ivory Coast
Early 20th century
Wood, glass beads and natural fibers
Height: 34 cm
Provenance:
Private Collection, Italy
Acquired in 1970
Publication:
Cat.: Tribal Art Confluences. David Serra-Fine Tribal Art, 2021. P. 4-7.
Price: 4.500 euros

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07

ALASKAN WATER DIPPER

Aleut painted water dipper
Hooper bay, Alaska
Circa 1920
Wood
9cm x 20cm x 13cm
Provenance:
Ex U.S. collection.
Price:

SOLD

OBJECT PRESENTED BY:
Adam Prout
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An ingenious design. This has been made from one piece of thick bentwood that has been steamed into shape with a wooden plug added into the base of the dipper.

Painted with a menagerie of animals and one human figure.

The base is inscribed 'Novog? Hooper Bay Alaska Made By Eskimo- May 3 1924'

08

FANTI COMB

Comb
Fanti
Ghana
Wood
Height: 27 cm
Provenance:
Private collection, NYC
Price on request

OBJECT PRESENTED BY:
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09

FIJI PLATE

Plate
Fiji Islands, Polynesia
19th century
Vesi wood (Intsia bijuga) with a fine oily patina of age and use.
56.9 x 30 x 8.6 cm.
Provenance:
Carlo Monzino &Haralabos Melenos, Castagnola
Acquired Sotheby's Paris, France
Exhibition:
African, Oceanic and Pre-Columbian Art - the Jacob Epstein and Carlo Monzino collections
Price: 6.500 euros

OBJECT PRESENTED BY:
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A tripod, lenticular, flat, priestly oil-dish sedre ni waiwai which contained sanctified coconut oil taken and rubbed on the priest's body prior to the ceremony of communing with the ancestors and performing rituals. The large crescent-form handle is carved with a rare form of repetitive triangular motifs reminiscent of shark teeth. The four, square sectioned struts which attaches the handle to the bowl were originally six, however two were obviously cut away in olden times for unknown reasons.

10

BAMANA PULLEY

Pulley
Bamana
Mali
19th century
Height: 18 cm
Provenance:
Harold Rome "B85
Price:

SOLD

OBJECT PRESENTED BY:
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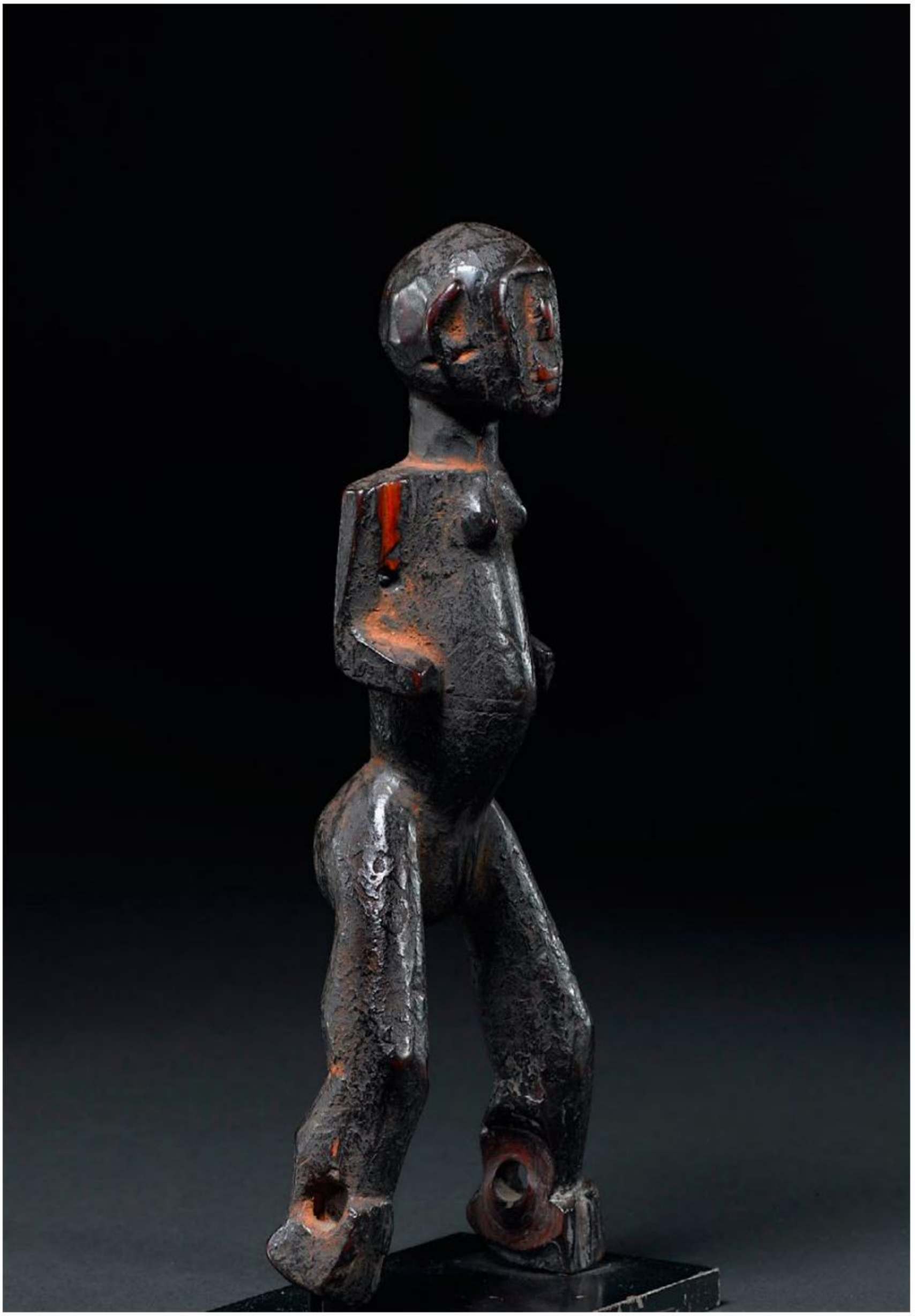

B85

11

DOLPO SCULPTURE

Sculpture
Dolpo, West Nepal
Wood
Height: 50 cm
Price: 2800 euros

OBJECT PRESENTED BY:

Joaquin Pecci
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12

YORUBA FEMALE IBEJI

Female Ibeji
Yoruba, Omu Aran style
Igbomina region, Nigeria
Wood, metal and leather bracelets, cam wood
Early 20th century
Height: 28,5 cm
Provenance:
Ursula Voorhuis, the Netherlands
Price: 2.500 euros

OBJECT PRESENTED BY:
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13

HOPI KACHINA DOLL

Katsina
Hopi, Arizona
Carved by Hopi Chief Wilson Tawaquaptewa, Oraibi (1873-1960)
Circa 1930s-1940s
Carved wood (cottonwood) and pigments
Height: 16 cm

TAS Exclusive Price:
3.500 euros

OBJECT PRESENTED BY:
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Kachina dolls (or *katsinam*) represent spirits or gods from the pantheon of the Pueblo peoples in the American Southwest. Given to children, kachina dolls constituted a pedagogical tool allowing them to familiarize themselves with the spiritual world and perpetuating knowledge of the founding myths on which their society was based. This doll is the work of a Hopi master carver, Wilson Tawaquaptewa (1873-1960).

Oraibi chief Wilson Tawaquaptewa was both a prominent a spiritual and political Hopi leader; he is also celebrated as the greatest Hopi kachina doll carver.

A major exhibition of Tawaquaptewa's kachina dolls took place a few years ago at the Birmingham Museum of Art (Alabama, USA).

The color palette on this doll is characteristic of this artist's carvings.

14

BAMANA CANE FIGURE

Solima bere cane figure
Bamana
Mali
Early 20th century
Wood and metal
Height. 141 cm (figure 31 cm)
Provenance:
F. Liotet Collection, Paris
Price: 6.500 euros

OBJECT PRESENTED BY:
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15

TONGA WAR CLUB

War club, *apa apai*
Tonga
18th to early 19th century
Wood
Height: 94 cm / 37 in
Provenance:
Entwistle Gallery, London/Paris
Private collection
Price: 16.000 euros

This club would have served as a prestige item in Tongan society, giving its owner high status within the community. It also could serve as a formidable weapon. The massive weight of the hardwood, depictions of ancestors and animal totems, and fine geometric linear designs were likely carved with a sharpened shell or rat's tooth, indicating an eighteenth-century date for this spiritually imbued weapon and work of art.

OBJECT PRESENTED BY:
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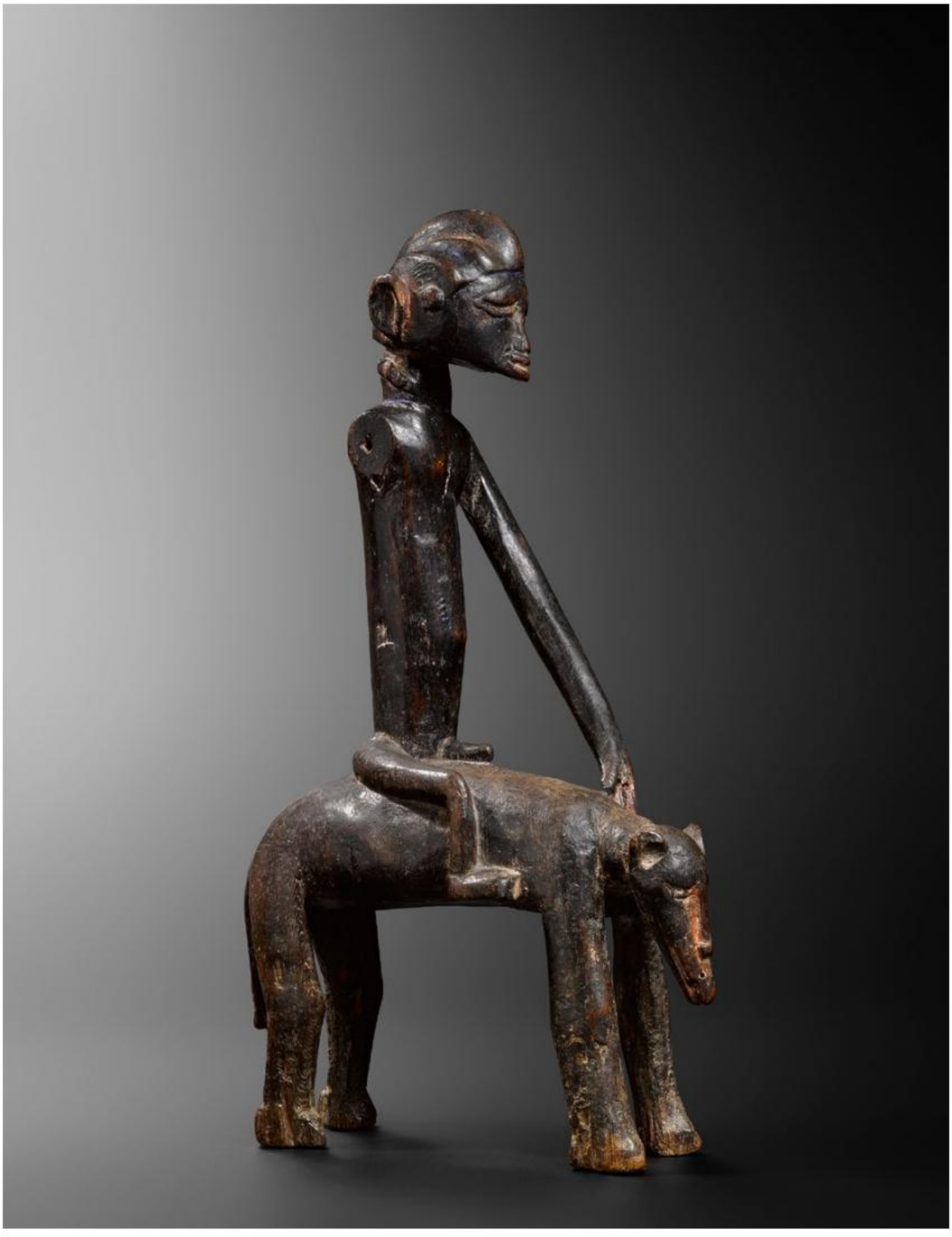

16

LIGBI RIDER

Rider
Ligbi or Kulango
Ivory Coast
Wood
Height: 36 cm
Provenance:
Private collection, France
Price:

SOLD

OBJECT PRESENTED BY:
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17

SEPIK BOWL

Bowl
Sepik River, Papua New Guinea
19th century
Wood
66 x 21 x 9 cm
Provenance:
Michael Hamson
Price: 2.500 euros

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W.: www.pascassio-manfredi.com

The treatment of the surface should indicate that the bowl has been stone carved and that the object is pre-contact.

18

LUBA FIGURE

Kabeja or Bankishi figure
Luba/hemba
Congo (Kinshasa)
Wood, beads, shell
Height: 27,3 cm
Provenance:
Barron Freddy Rolin, NYC Private collection
Phillipe Ratton, Paris
Exhibition:
New York USA: "Luba/Hemba" , Freddy Rolin Gallery, 20April-26 May 1979 Paris, France, "Duo", Paris: Galerie Ratton, June 2012
Publication:
Expo cat: "Luba Hemba" New York: F.Rolin & Co. Inc, 1979 #27
Price on request

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19

NEPAL MASK

Mask
Western Nepal
Sindoor (ritual pigment), vegetal resin and hair
Height: 31,5cm
Price on request

OBJECT PRESENTED BY:
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20

BAULE STATUE

Statue
Baule
Ivory Coast
19th century
Wood
Height:34 cm
Provenance:
Maine Durieu collection, Paris
Rachel Montagut, Barcelona
Price: 6.000 euros

OBJECT PRESENTED BY:
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21

BATAK ANCESTOR

Ancestor figure "Pangulubalang"
Toba Batak
Sumatra, Indonesia.
Second half of 19th century
Wood, horse' hairs, leather
Height: 51 cm
Price: 6.000 euros

OBJECT PRESENTED BY:
Pascassio Mandfredi
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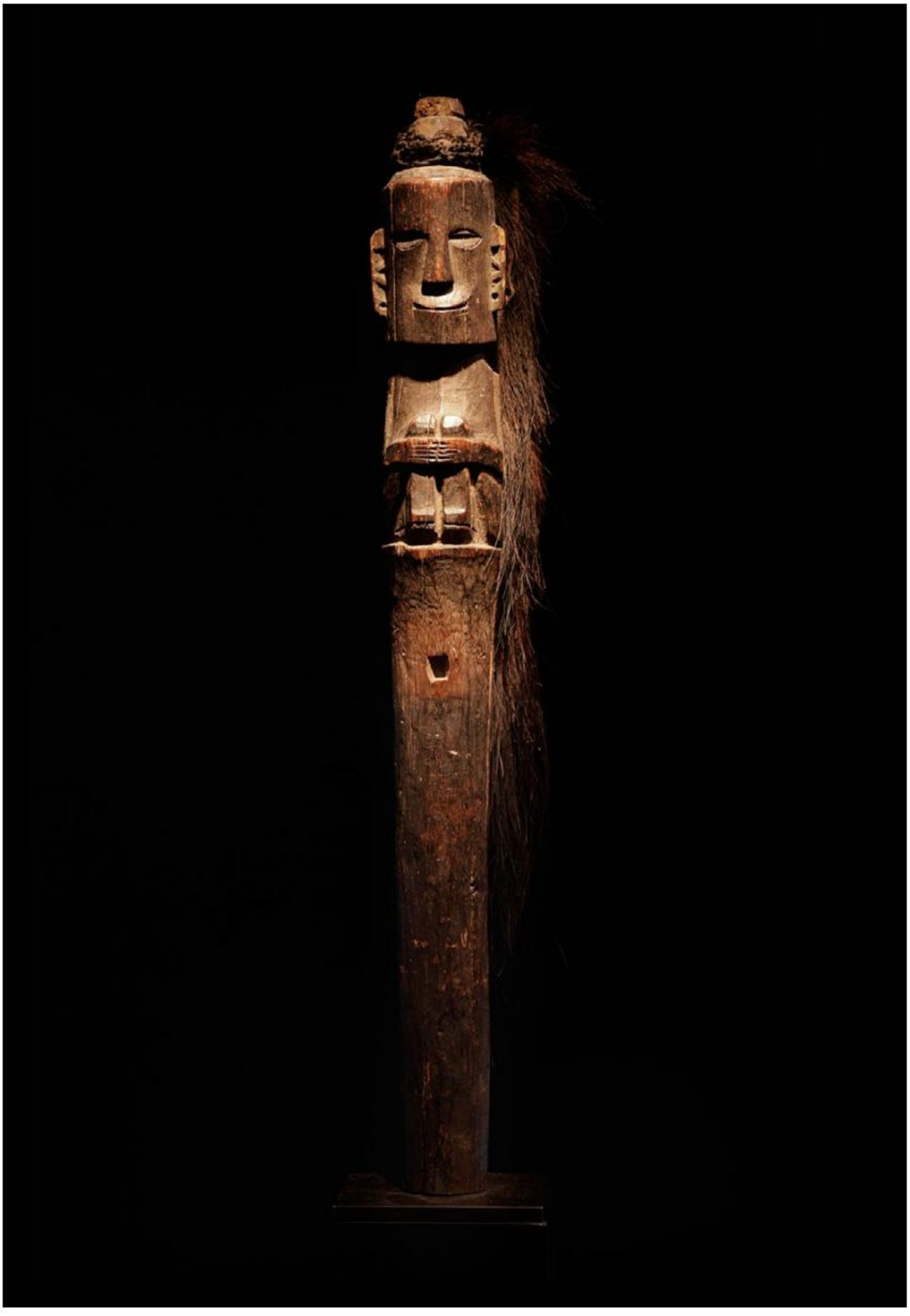
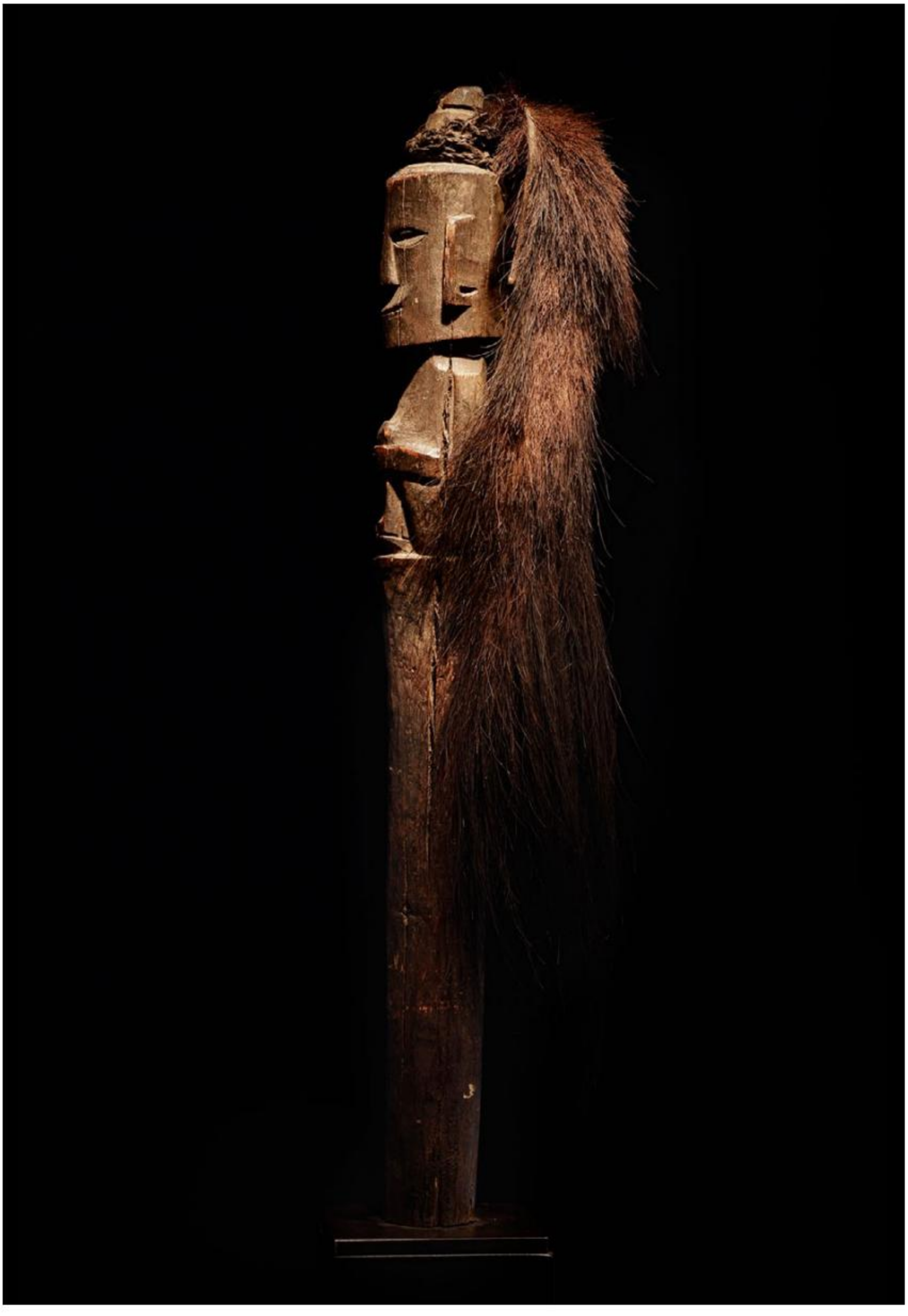
Presence of an hole for containing the "pupuk", the magical substance that gives power to the effigy and that protects from malevolent influences.

The statue is maybe for an altar "Rago-rago" or as an architectural element.





22

AFIKPO MASK

Mmaji mask
Afikpo, Nigeria
Wood, pigment, fiber
Height: 13 1/4 inches (33,7cm)
Pace Inv #54-5133 ?
Provenance:
Ex private collection, New York
Price:

SOLD

OBJECT PRESENTED BY:
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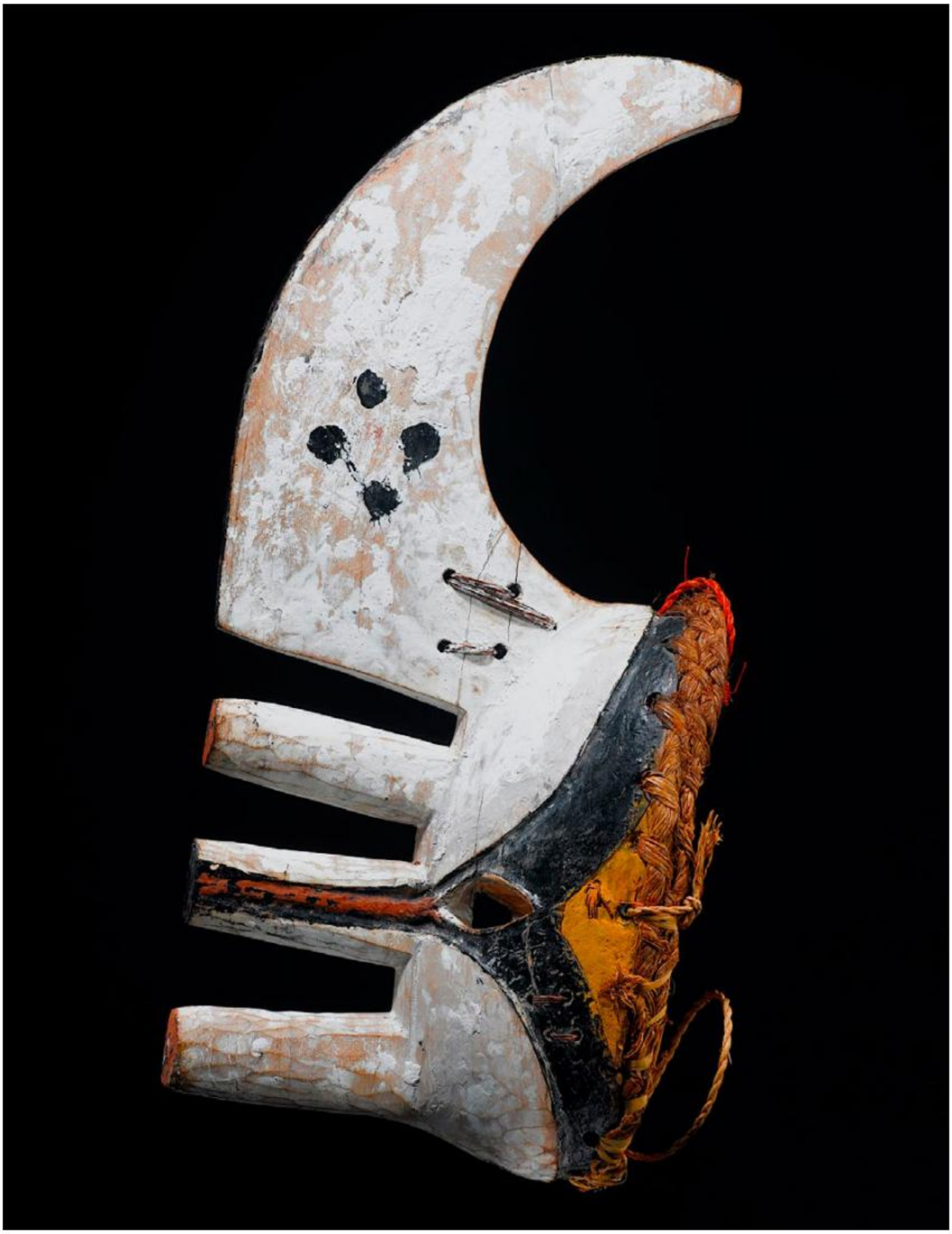

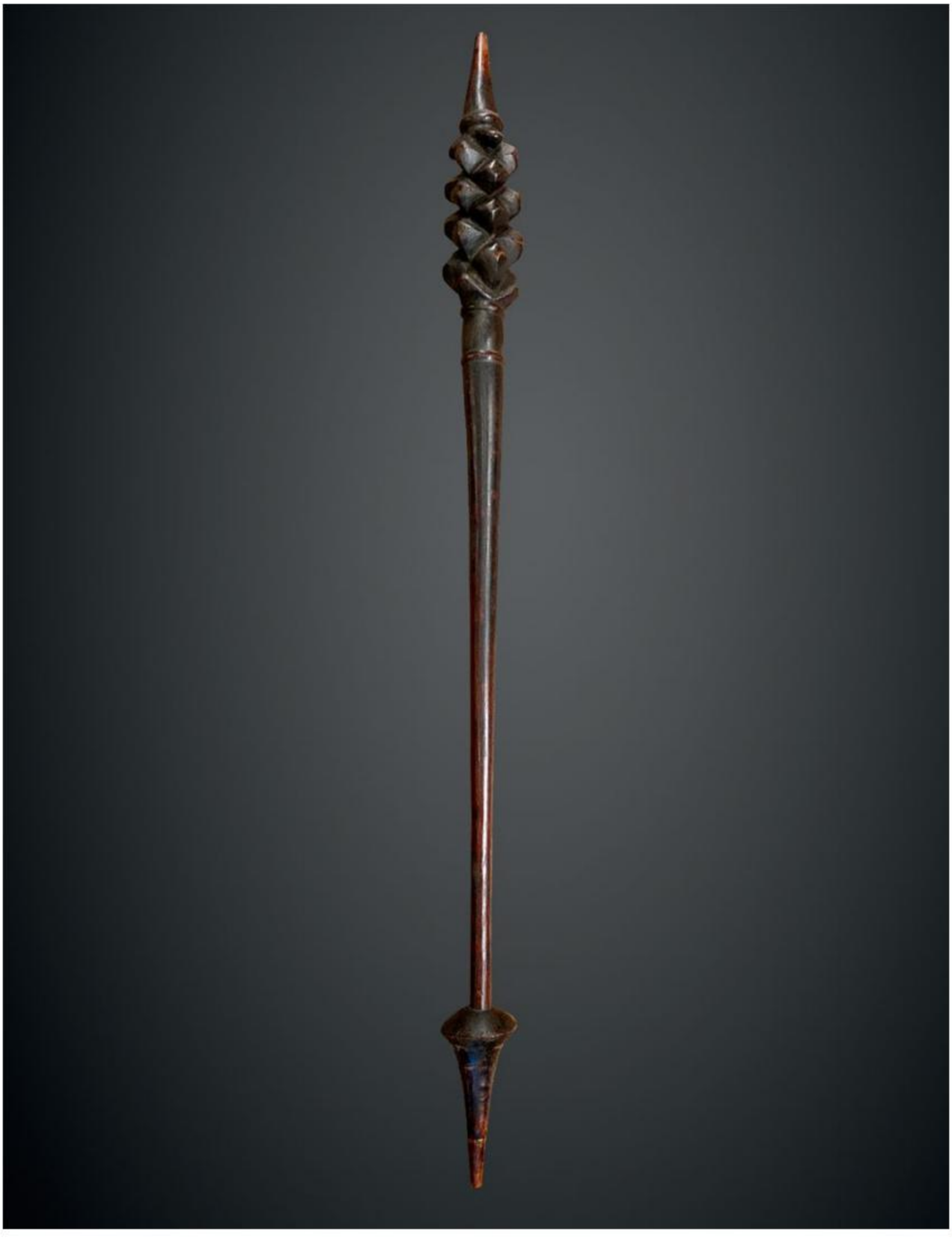

23

SULKA WAR CLUB

War club
Sulka
Bismarck Archipelago, P.N.G.
19th century
Wood with a very fine patina
of age and use.
Height: 111,2 cm
Provenance:
Alexandre Bernand, Paris/London
Price: 13.500 euros

An exceptionally rare and remarkably fine war-club from the Sulka People of Wide Bay. This type of club amongst the 4 or 5 typologies is of the rarest form. The striking head is composed of seven tiers of interspaced knob sunder a conical stabbing point. The grip is part of the prolongation of the haft with the butt as an enlarged conical finial. These clubs were rarely collected compared to other types of Sulka weapons and more rarely are they of great esthetic value like the present example. Other known examples where all collected at the end of the 19th century when the German colonial administration began in earnest in the Bismarck Archipelago.

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24

BAMILEKE DRUM

Drum
Bamileke
Cameroon
Wood
Height: 73 cm
Provenance:
Private belgian collection
Price: 2.500 euros

OBJECT PRESENTED BY:
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25

NEPAL FIGURE

Female divinity with snakes
West Nepal
Wood, clay
Height: 61 cm
Price:

SOLD

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26

HOLO BOWL

Fetish bowl
Holo
D.R. of the Congo
Wood, Calabash, horn,
Fetish material
14,5 cm
Provenance:
Pierre Dartevelle, Brussels
Publication:
Bastin (Marie-Louise) introduction
Aux Arts D'Afrique Noire.
Price on request

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27

DAYAK LONG-HOUSE BEAM

Long-house beam
Kenya Kayan Dayak
Mahakam River, East Kalimantan
(Borneo), Indonesia.
Second half 19th century
Iron wood (ulin),
190 x 21 x 9 cm
Price: 3.000 euros

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The Dayak dragon symbol is a feminine symbol to ensure agricultural and human fertility and also protects the daily life. It also guards the passage of the dead from this to the other world. It corresponds to the Indian makara, the Balinese barong and the Batak singha

28

PUNU MASK

Mask
Punu or Tsangui
Gabon
Wood, kaolin, pigments
Height. 32 cm
Provenance:
Collection of a colonial administrator in post in the 1930s.
Price on request

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29

NEPAL MASK

Primitive mask
Western Nepal
Wood, vegetal resin
Height: 22, 5 cm
Price on request

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30

NIGERIAN COMB

Benin Comb
Nigeria
18th-19th century
Wood
19 cm x 5,2 cm
Price: 4.800 euros

OBJECT PRESENTED BY:
Adam Prout
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W.: www.adamprout.com

A very fine bone comb in perfect condition. An amazing piece of carving (very thin) and incredible that is has survived without any damage.

The British museum has a comb in wood with an identical bird motif, museum number Af1984,19.228. Theirs comes from the collection of Maurice Cockin who was a district officer in Owo, it is described as 16th – 19th century and was found in Benin City. I estimate this beautiful comb to date from the 18th to early 19th century.

31

PENDE MASK

Giphoco Mask
Pende
D. R. of the Congo
20th century
Wood, vegetable fibers
Height: 30 cm. (+ the costume)
Provenance:
Former private French collection.
Price: 4.500 euros

Dance mask exhibiting both anthropomorphic and zoomorphic characteristics. The human face in the heart is surmounted by two small antelope horns. A thick beard made of vegetable fibers and a rare mesh costume complete the mask.

OBJECT PRESENTED BY:
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32

SUPE WARRIOR'S CLUB

Supe Warrior's Club
Malatia, Solomon Islands
19th century
Wood, coir fiber wrapping
Height: 74 cm / 29 in
Price: 5.000 euros

OBJECT PRESENTED BY:
Thomas Murray
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Classic diamond shape with central cross section and raised central lobe, the tapering handle with a coir fiber grip. Made of heavy hard wood with a silky aged patina.

33

YAKA FIGURE

Fetish
Yaka
D. R. of the Congo
Wood
Height:28cm
Provenance:
Pierre Dartevelle, Brussels
Price: 3.200 euros

OBJECT PRESENTED BY:
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W.: www.pablotouchaleaume.com

34

SEPIK POUNDER

Pounder
Sepik, Papua New Guinea
Late 19th century – Early 20th century
Wood
Height. 50 cm
Provenance:
Pieter Lunshof Collection, Paris /
De Haaag
Anthony Meyer, Paris
Private Collection, Netherlands
Price on request

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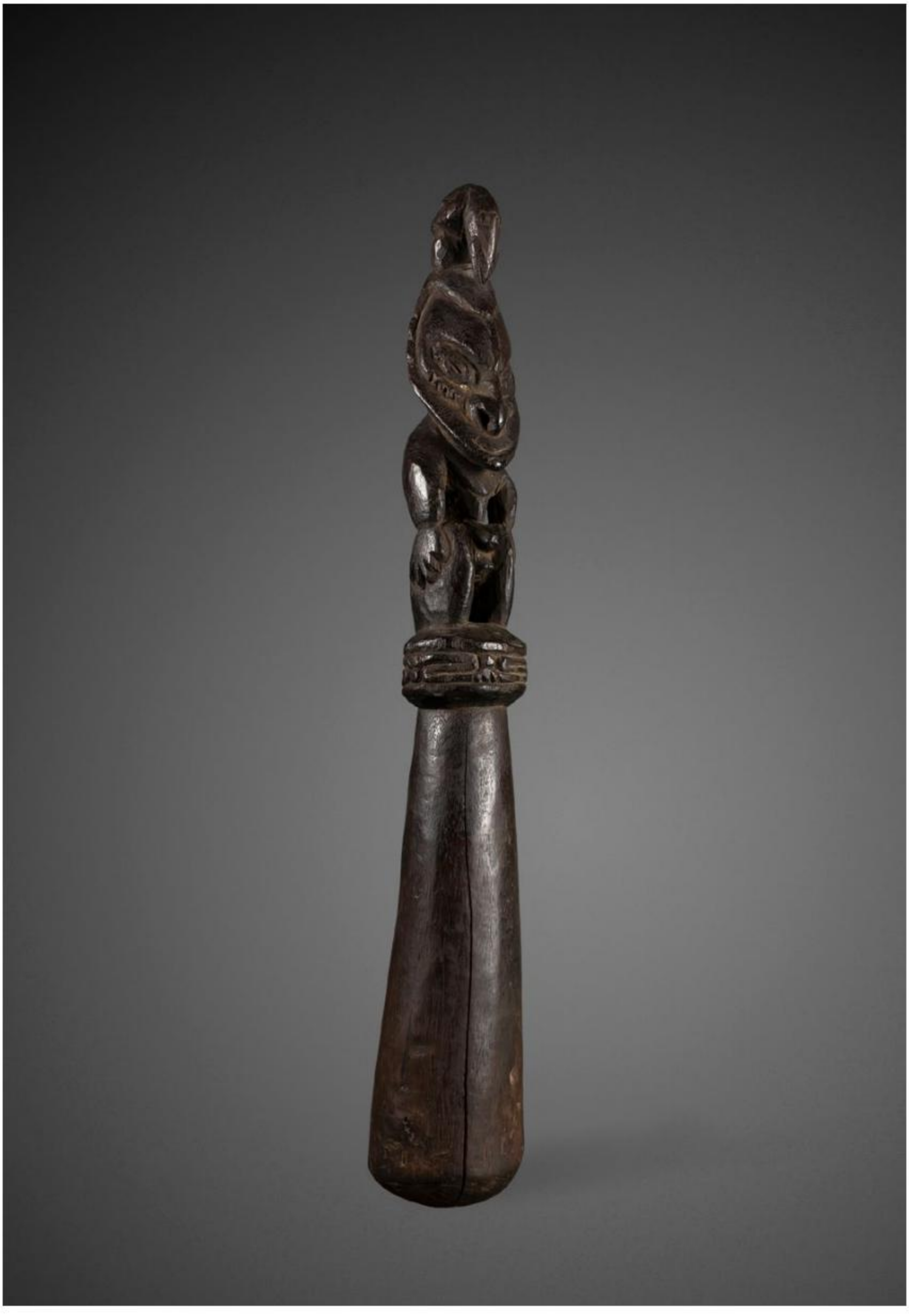

35

HIGHLANDS WAR SHIELD

War shield
Southern Highlands, Papua New Guinea
20th century
Carved wood and pigments
Height: 120 cm
Provenance:
Bob Hall, collected on the field
Jonathan Saussherd, Queensland, Australia
Dr Beaulieu, Australia & France, acquired from the above
Price:

SOLD

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Warfare has been at the center of Highlands life since immemorial times. The shield has always been considered an extension of the warrior himself.

When warfare was expected, warriors repainted their shields to ensure that the colors shone brilliantly against the sun to dazzle and threaten the opposing side. In the western Pacific, shields bore the name of warriors, and possessed a life force, or spirit, that connected them to their ancestors.

This shield carved in a very dense wood has a superb color composition.

UP TO € 2000

36

BAMILEKE HEAD

Head
Bamileke
Grassfields region, Cameroon
Wood
19th to early 20th century
Height: 41 cm
Provenance: French private collection

TAS Exclusive Price:
1.500 euros

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37

KISI STATUE

Statue
Kisi
Tanzania
Terracotta
Height: 14,5 cm
Provenance:
Private collection, U.K.
Price: 1.800 euros

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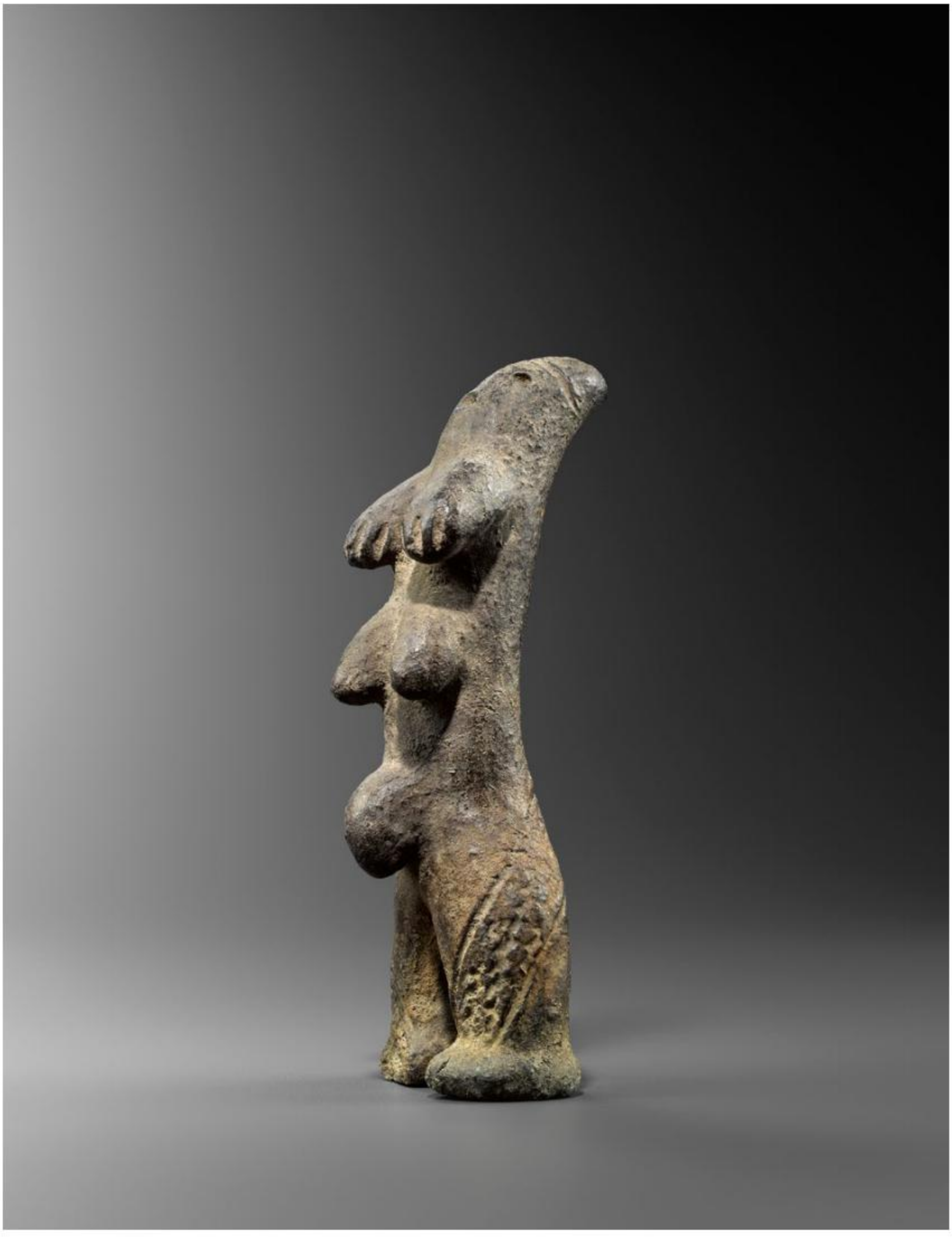

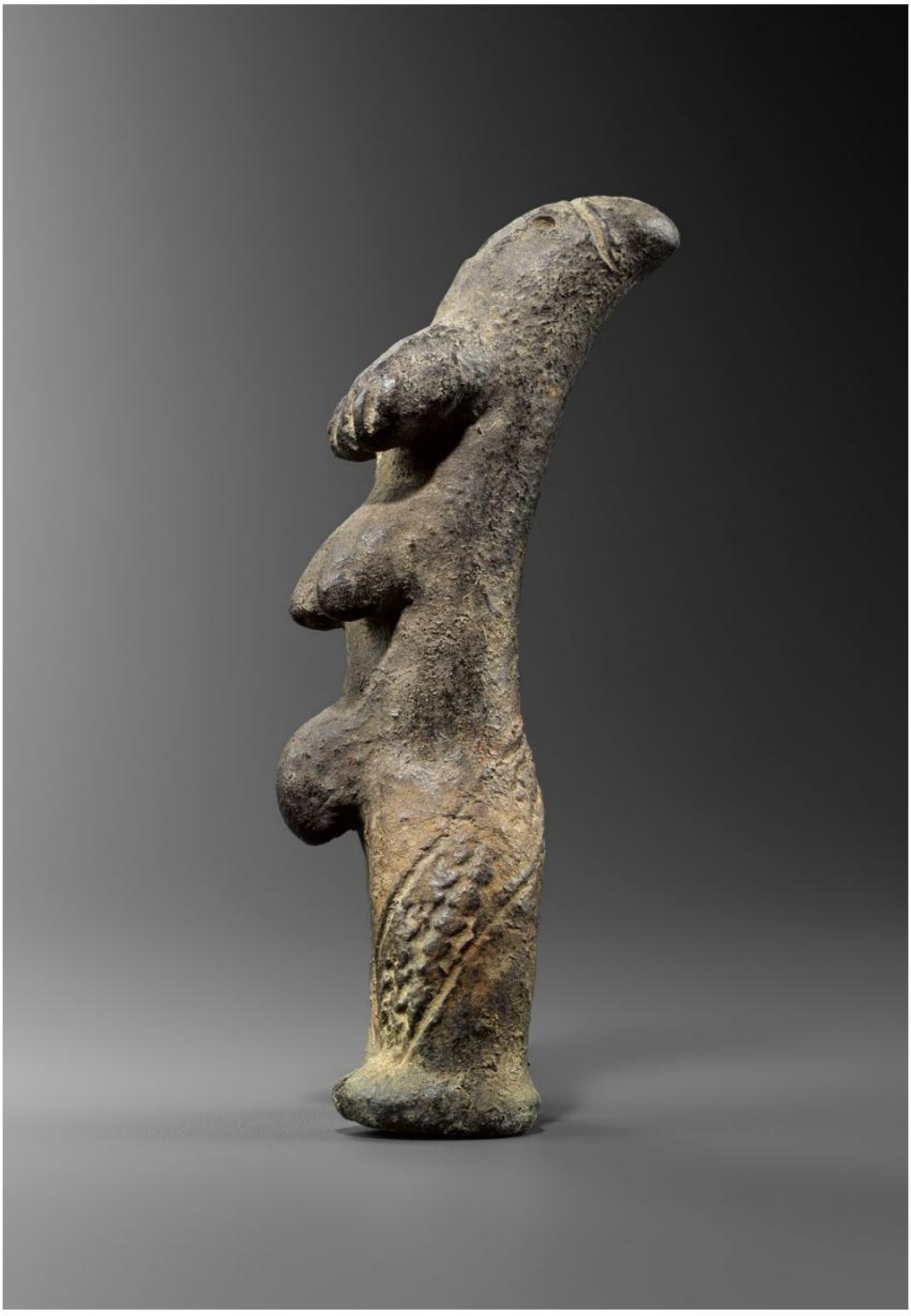

38

VILI FIGURE

Fetish
Vili
D. R. of the Congo
Wood
Height:13 cm
Price: 1.800 euros

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39

LARGE ABORIGINAL HOOK

Large Aboriginal Hook
Australia
Mid 19th century
Metal and wood
Length: 27cm
Provenance:
Rufus Eyre collection
Price:

SOLD

An extremely rare survivor, a large Australian Aboriginal fish hook in superb condition and probably dating to the mid 19th century. Indigenous fish hooks from Australia are very rare as they traded metal European ones very early on and also just not many seemed to have been collected.

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40

SENUFO HEDDLE PULLEY

Pulley
Senufo
Ivory Coast
Early 20th century
Wood
Height: 25 cm
Provenance:
McNemar collection, New York
Price: 2.000 euros

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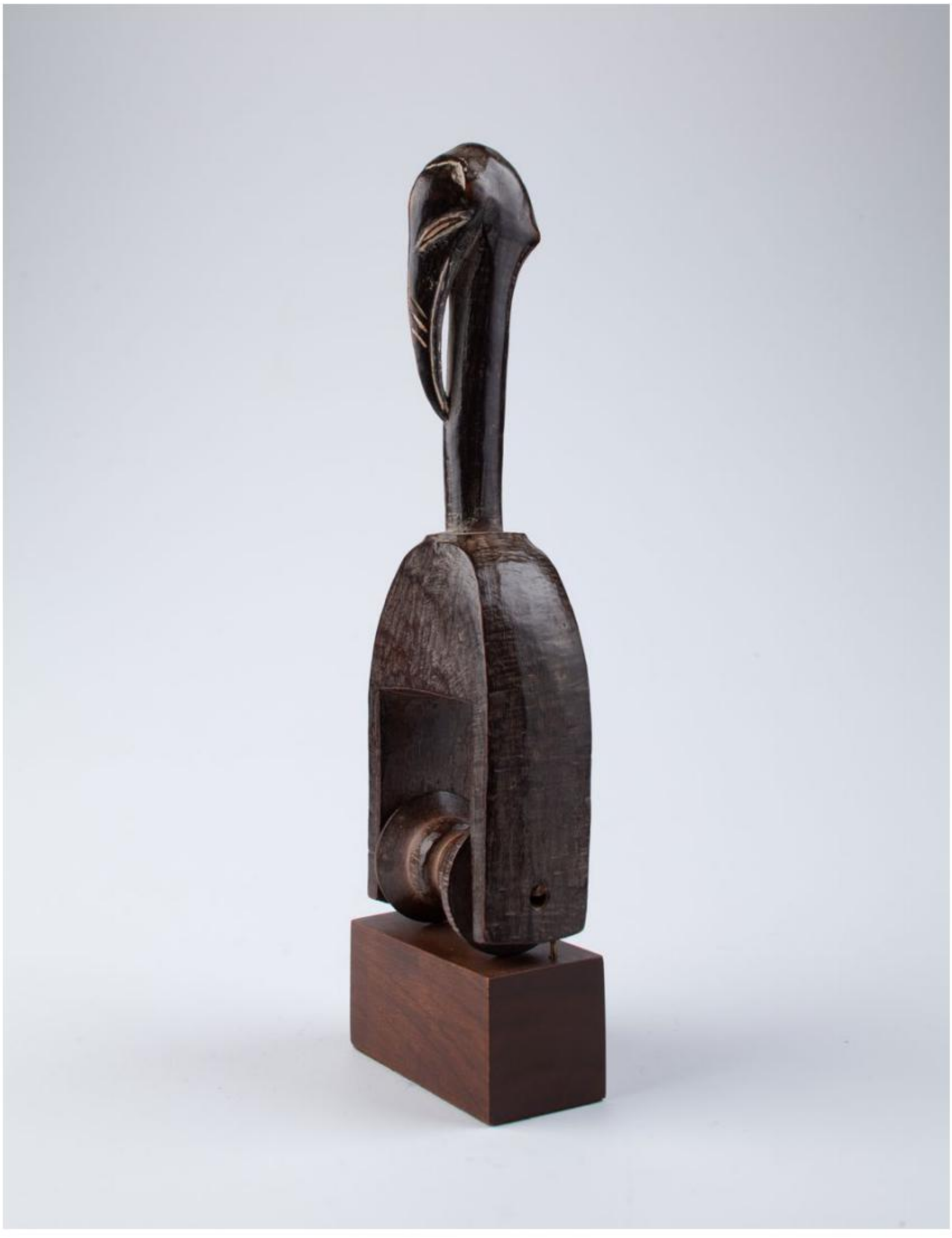

41

SENUFO HEDDLE PULLEY

Heddle Pulley
Senufo
Ivory Coast
Early 20th century
Wood
Height: 28 cm
Provenance:
McNemar, New York
Price: 2.000 euros

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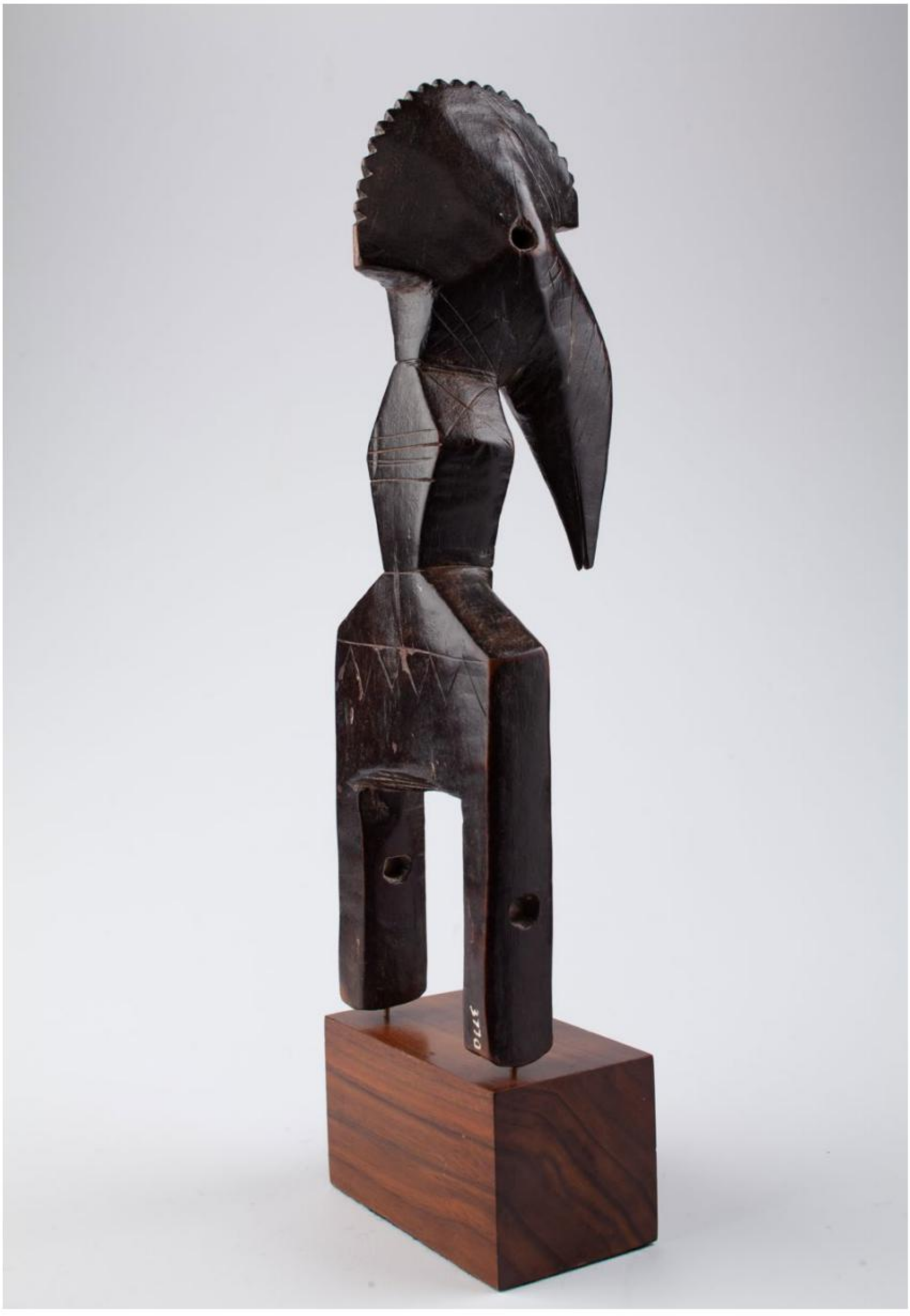

42

TIV CEREMONIAL AXE

Axe
Tiv
Nigeria
Metal and brass
Height: 53 cm
Price: 1.500 euros

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43

BOBANGI TORQUE

Torque
Bobangi
Ubangi region, D. R. of the Congo
Cooper alloy
19th to early 20th century
Height: 14 cm (22 cm with base)
Provenance:
French private collection
Price: 1.000 euros

A very rare type of Ubangian torque. For a similar examples see de Ricqlès, Paris, "Arts Primitifs, Collection Hubert Goldet", 30 June-1 July 2001 (lot 368-369) and Angela Fisher, ""Africa Adorned", London: Collins, 1984. Custom base by Romain Laforêt.

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44

SAAMBA-PARE FIGURE

Figure
Saamba-Pare
Tanzania
19th century
Height: 13 cm /5 1/2" in.
Provenance:
German Collection
Price: 1.500 euros

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964

45

BENA LULUA STATUE

Statue
Bena Lulua
D.R. of the Congo
Provenance:
The Estate of Irwin and Ceci Smiley.
Ex. Sothebys Parke Bernet 1981.
Price: 1.750 euros

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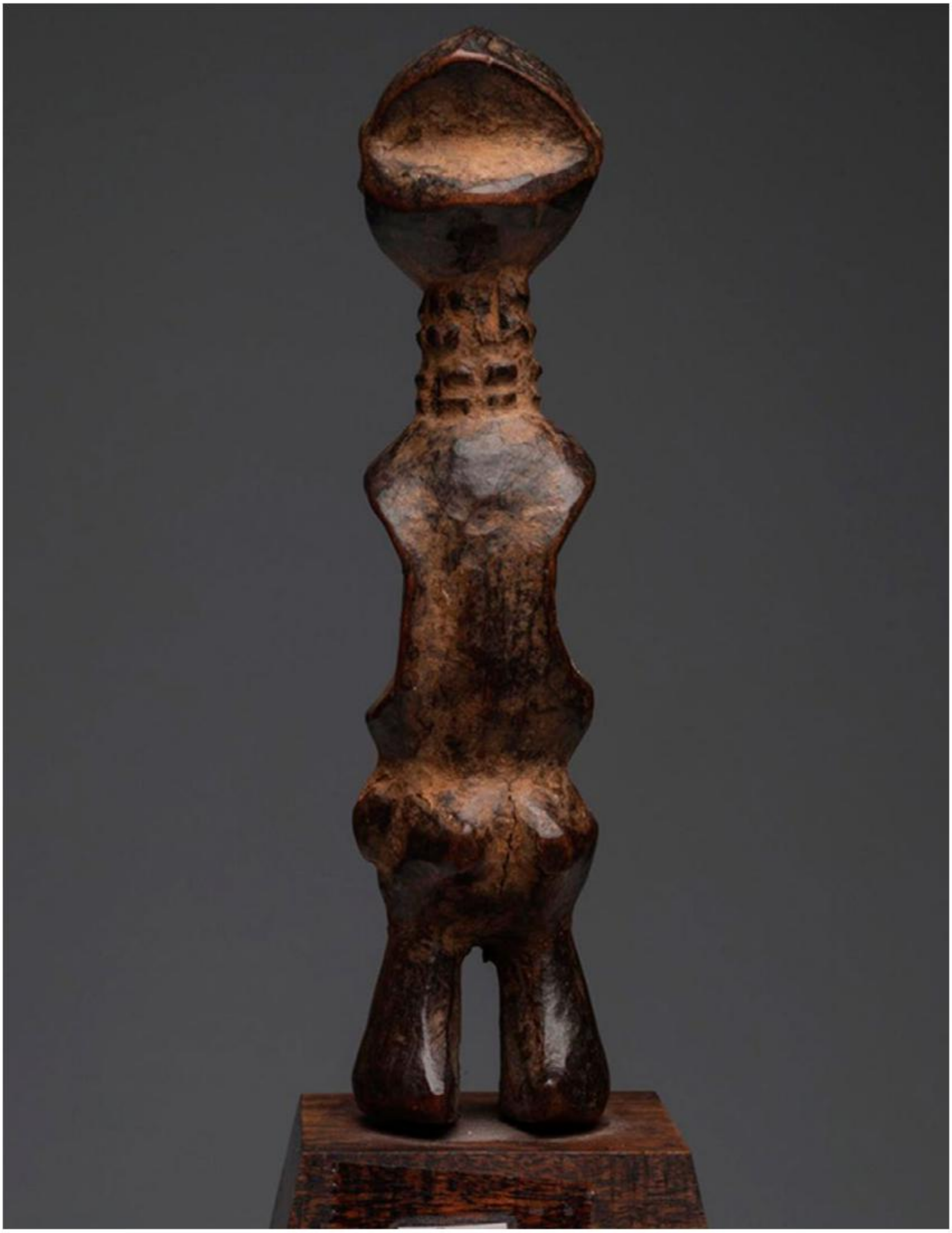

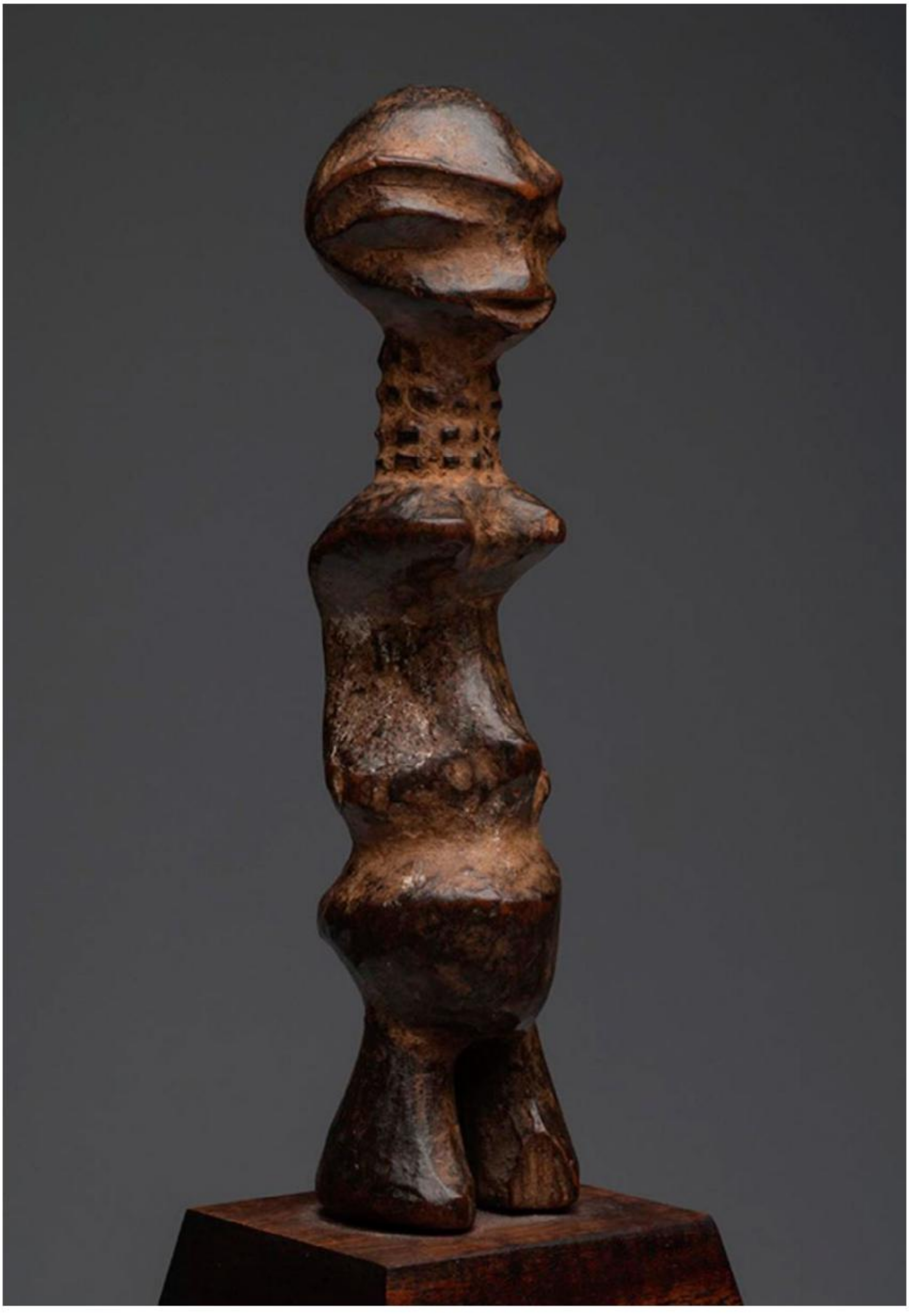

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